

Bavarian News

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Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels and Vilseck

June 14, 2006

IN GERMANY | REPOSITIONING AFFECTS THOUSANDS

FY07 Transformation plans released

USAREUR Public Affairs

Approximately 12,500 Soldier positions and 18,750 family members in Germany will be affected by U.S. Army Europe's recently announced Transformation plans.

In FY07, USAREUR will convert, inactivate and return numerous units to the U.S. to support Army Transformation and the Department of Defense's overall plan to increase strategic responsiveness in the face of threats posed by the Global War on Terrorism.

The command will return the 1st Brigade Combat Team of the 1st Armored Division to the U.S.; set the conditions for the modular design,

Many units convert, inactivate, return to United States

inactivation, or return of combat service support units; convert USAREUR aviation units into a Combat Aviation Brigade; and conduct transformation activities related to engineering and other units.

In addition to the more than 30,000 Soldiers and families who will be affected, 503 U.S. and 587 local national civilian employees assigned to the units will be affected by the decision.

(Numbers reflect the total personnel associated with the units and organizations in this announcement).

The impact on both military and civilian personnel will vary, based on the disposition of their units as outlined below and the status of individual Soldiers and employees.

Also, the number of Soldiers reflects authorized positions, while the number of civilians is actual strengths.

1st Brigade Combat Team of 1st AD

After the unit returns from deployment to Iraq in January, and subsequently reintegrates with their families in Europe, they will move to the U.S. Manning will be reduced before returning with the unit flag to

the U.S.

These unit transformation actions will affect approximately 3,500 Soldiers and 5,200 family members.

In addition, three U.S. civilian employees assigned to the units will be affected. There are no local national positions associated with the 1st Brigade.

1st BCT units that will depart USAREUR are:

- Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade, 1st Armored Division, Friedberg.
- 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry

Regiment, Friedberg.

■ 1st Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment, Friedberg.

■ 2nd Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment, Friedberg.

■ F Troop, 1st Cavalry Regiment, Friedberg.

■ 2nd Battalion, 3rd Field Artillery Regiment, Giessen.

■ 501st Forward Support Battalion, Friedberg.

■ A Company of the 501st Military Intelligence Battalion, Wackernheim.

■ A Company, 141st Signal Battalion, Wiesbaden.

■ 6th Engineer Battalion, Giessen.

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JOB SECURITY

Army Europe retains temp employees

IMA-Europe Public Affairs

U.S. Army, Europe announced today that Army units and communities in the USAREUR area of responsibility will retain temporary employees despite the ongoing Army-wide resource challenges.

"The Army is all about people. That's why we looked at a number of other options to mitigate the effects of the resource challenge the Army faces. Soldiers, civilians, and the family members who support them are the lifeblood of the Army," said USAREUR Commander Gen. David McKiernan. "USAREUR and IMA-Europe sought and received relief from the recently announced requirement to release temporary employees."

McKiernan
"The Army is about people. Soldiers, civilians, and family members are the life-blood."

The decision to retain temporary employees applies to all Army in Europe units and communities, including USAREUR/7th Army, IMA-Europe, European Regional Medical Command, 5th Signal Command, and U.S. Army-NATO.

USAREUR and IMA-E will also sponsor a summer-hire program for young people. The six-week program will start on June 26.

Army in Europe units will take other actions to reduce costs including a hold on hiring actions, postponing or canceling non-essential travel and conferences, and redirecting funds from less critical operations. Cost cutting measures will also be applied to logistics functions and contracts.

Department of the Army planning guidance is to reduce overall spending while ensuring that life, health, and safety issues are covered. The priority is to continue critical support to ongoing missions in Iraq and Afghanistan and to readiness

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AT THE PUMP

June gas prices increase

Story and photo by **ADRIANE FOSS**

Bavarian News

AAFES gas prices for the month of June rose \$.30 in Germany, yielding the following prices at the pump:

- Unleaded - \$3.080
- Super Unleaded - \$3.186
- Super Plus Unleaded - \$3.287
- Diesel - \$3.066

The prices are market based, "meaning the policy is to set them based on what customers are paying in the U.S.," said AAFES spokeswoman Debbie Byerly.

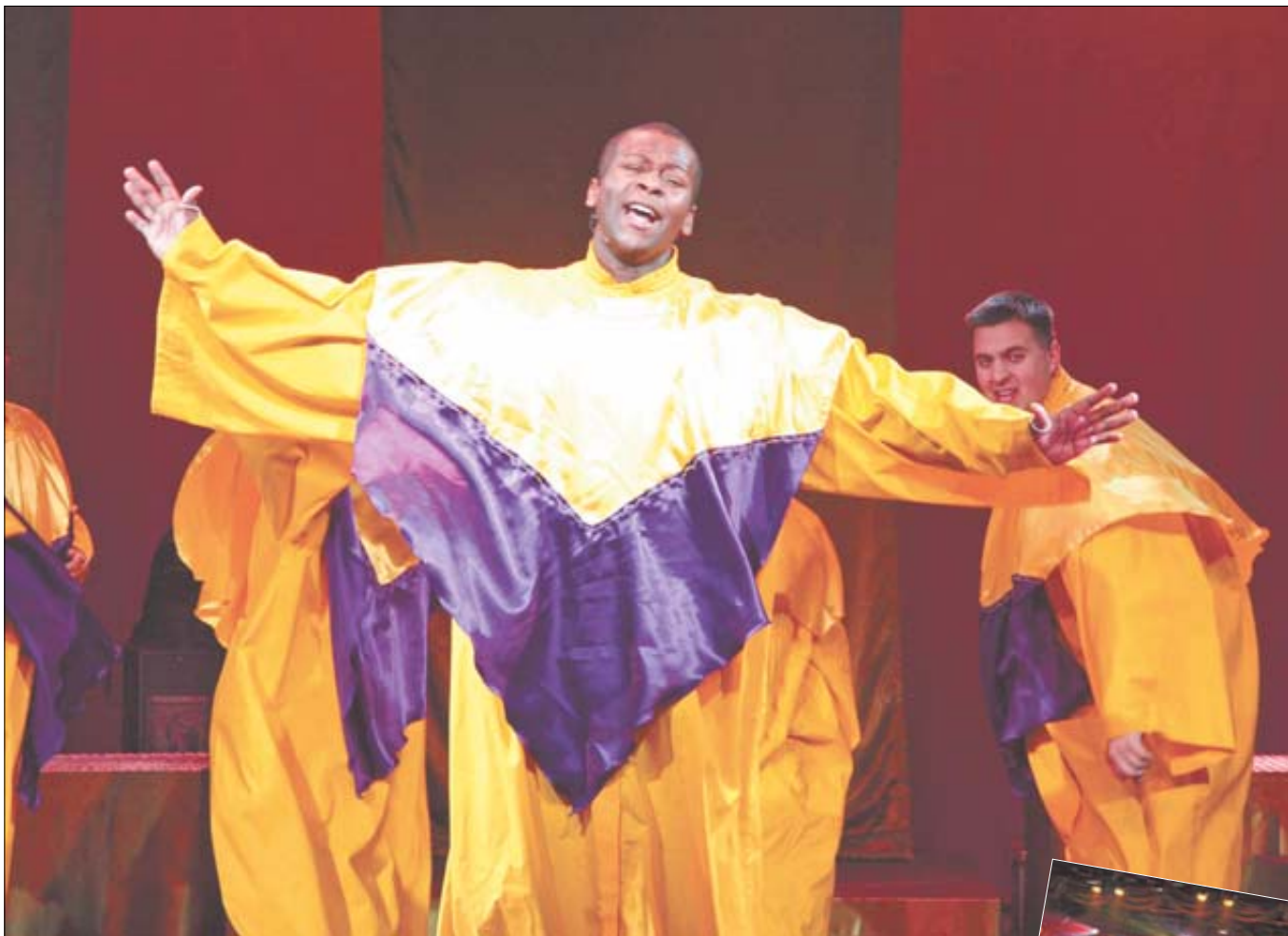
While basing overseas rates on U.S. averages may be comfort for some, even more comforting is the fact

See **BUY** Page 4



Despite record prices, gas consumption remains high.

2006 Soldier Show: A hand-raising good time !!!



Photos by **Adriane Foss**

Sp. John Morris led an animated cast during the grand finale of the 2006 U.S. Army Soldier Show at the Grafenwoehr Field House June 3. The all-Soldier cast performed various genres, from country to blues, gospel and hip-hop, for a large crowd. The theme of this year's show is "Reveille: Answering the Call" and highlights the service members' "love of country, always-ready spirit, and commitment to victory."

If you are an active duty, Army Reserve, or National Guard Soldier with sufficient time remaining in service, you can submit a packet for a chance to audition for the 2007 show. Visit www.ArmyEntertainment.net for more information.



HEALTH UPDATE

Keep measles at bay with vaccine

Europe Regional Medical Command

German health officials in the Nordrhein-Westfalen area are urging parents who have not already done so to have their children immunized against the measles in the wake of a recent spike in the numbers of school-age children contracting the disease in that region.

"Although more than 1,000 cases of measles have been reported in the affected area, no cases have been reported in the U.S. beneficiary population, said Dr. (Lt. Col.) William Corr, preventive medicine consultant, Europe Regional Medical Command.

"This is likely due to the fact that there are no large concentrations of U.S. beneficiaries in the Nordrhein-Westfalen area and the extensive

number of beneficiaries who have been vaccinated against measles."

Childhood immunizations are not administered as universally within the German population as they are in the United States and DoDDS schools, Corr pointed out.

According to a report on Eurosuroveillance.org, a not-for-profit Web site for sharing medical information among European countries, only 25 of the patients seen had been immunized (less than 2.5 percent).

"Measles is a highly contagious disease, but is prevented through vaccination and other countermeasures," said Corr, who is on staff at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center. "All military

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Q&A

How are you dealing with the rising gas costs?



AJ Miller

"I am driving less, but no public transportation. It's allowed me to spend more quality time with my wife."



Traci Artman

"I've whined and complained. I have to drive, I have three kids! I do take the train when I can."



Robin Johnson

"I am driving less. Instead of driving to the store every day I combine my trips."



Roy Reedy

"I am driving the wife's German car everywhere except to work. It costs around \$100 to fill up my big gas-guzzling truck."



Lt. Col. James Matheson

"I'll be flying instead of driving to France. The plane tickets are about one-tenth of the price of driving a car."



Barbara Craven

"I haven't changed anything. I still have to drive to work. If anything I do less driving socially now."



Svetlana Stallworth

"I changed my habits a long time ago. I only come to post one time a day now."



Laura Redden

"I purchased all my fuel coupons before the rate hike. I park in 1 spot on post and walk to do my errands."

Vehicle safety, policies, funding No. 1 concerns

Apparently I spoke about the weather too soon in the last edition of this column as it was 37 degrees Fahrenheit this Saturday! I guess that proves the old story about this area – if you don't like the weather, wait five minutes and it will change. Off to the column.

Motor Vehicle Safety

Many of you may have heard garrison senior leaders and community young adults doing radio and TV safety spots on AFN.

It continues our long-term effort to inform the community and ensure everyone conducts composite risk management, on and off duty, for every event they intend to do.

For whatever reason, the word does not seem to be getting out to our motorcycle riders. Some sobering statistics may help get everyone's attention:

In the past 45 days, the Army has lost 14 motorcycle drivers. Interestingly enough the losses are not junior soldiers.

Over half of the victims were NCOs and most of the fatalities occurred at night.

Several of the instances were accidents "waiting to happen" because they included alcohol, no helmets, no licenses etc. Some, however, followed all the rules. All are tragedies.

The latest one was a sergeant first class. His motorcycle was midsize (600 cc), he had taken all required safety courses, and was wearing all the appropriate gear.



Boyle

He attempted to pass a car, hit the side of it and was killed.

All I can say is even with all the proper equipment and training, there is not a whole lot of personal protection on a motorcycle. Just be safe is all that I can request.

Along those lines, the garrison is sponsoring a Motor Vehicle Safety Day.

Held on June 21, the events will include wrecked car displays, TMP safety inspections, and a motorcycle rally.

We will also sponsor other events throughout the summer like child safety seat inspections and more radio and TV spots.

I encourage all tenant commanders to let their personnel attend the Motor Vehicle Safety Day at the Vilseck Army Airfield on June 21, starting at 9 a.m.

Policy Letters

After a thorough review of all pre-existing policy letters, U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr policy letters are now complete.

It is my intent to highlight a policy letter per column to inform the community the expectations we have for your conduct on this post. USAG Grafenwoehr has 22.

The Senior mission commander, has 17. For those personnel in Hohenfels, Lt. Col. Matheson has a number less than 20.

Members of our communities need to adhere to Army regulations and the applicable policy letters that cover where you live. This is part of the personal responsibility you bear as part of our community.

From a dot.mil computer, you can access the USAG Grafenwoehr policy letters by visiting <https://intranet/grafenwoehr.army.mil/policies/garrison.htm>.

Funding

Many of you have read the Stars and Stripes articles on IMA-E being told to "let go" of their temporary and term employees.

Fortunately the USAREUR CG was able to change that, and we get to retain our employees.

As far as future years go, I really want to stress that funding will continue to be a challenge. I fully expect that we will get less money in FY 07 than we received in FY 06 and we will likely get it later than normal.

We will continue to carefully scrutinize the things we do for the community and keep you all informed if we have to change a level of service.

Helping hands

A portion of the main body of 2 CR has arrived. If you see a family struggling because they don't have a vehicle, consider picking them up.

Help me welcome them into the community and become members of the best place to live and serve in Europe.

*Col. Brian T. Boyle
Commander, U.S. Army
Garrison Grafenwoehr*

View from Iraq Soldiers, Marines drive on through adversity

COMMENTARY

by JIM GARAMONE

American Forces Press Service

HIT, Iraq, June 6, 2006 -

The Soldiers and Marines here put up with more adversity in their deployment than most Americans will see in a lifetime. And they do it with a great attitude.

These are not some goody-goody type service members.

They are profane to the extreme, and expletives make an appearance in most conversations. No one takes offense.

"Busting chops" is a fine art, and people are always ready to tell or listen to a fine story that uses a buddy as the butt of the joke.

But life in Hit, like the troops' language and jokes, is hard.

The name is spelled "h-i-t," but is pronounced "heat," and the place is hot. The temperature now hovers around 120 degrees. It will climb to 130 by the end of the month.

There is always a wind blowing in Hit, but it might as well be a hair dryer. A good way to get a feel for what the Soldiers here go through is to stick your head inside a convection oven for an hour.

Now add to that the gear. The interceptor body armor and Kevlar helmet make you understand why

aluminum foil around a potato bakes it faster.

Soldiers and Marines carry more than 90 pounds of equipment - weapons, a combat load of ammunition, first-aid pouches, global positioning system equipment, communications gear and the like - every time they go outside the wire.

Try running down a street carrying all that, because that is what servicemembers must do here.

The unit has Bradley fighting vehicles, but walking among the townspeople is more effective in connecting with the local population, so Soldiers dismount. Soldiers and Marines come off patrol just drenched with sweat. If they sweat really badly, you can see the salt stains where it has soaked through the boots.

There are Porta-potties at the main camp outside town, but contractors will not go into the firm bases - or forward operating bases - in the city itself.

That means that at the firm bases they use things called "wag bags" for solid waste. The user seals the bag after its intended use and then deposits it in a burn barrel.

You don't want to have an open latrine because that would attract insects. Urinals at the firm bases are tubes driven into the ground.

There is city water and it

sometimes works, sometimes doesn't. You take showers when you can, and when the water is running. Don't count on it to work when you want it to.

And then there is the danger. Some men have been "IEDed" - in a vehicle that got hit by an improvised explosive device - a couple of times. Many in the 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry, are on their second tour in Iraq and have a history with IEDs going back to 2003.

Added to that is snipers. The unit's only death has been to a sniper. One sniper in Anbar province goes by the name "Scorpion." He has people videotape his kills and you can find

DVDs showing these kills in markets in Baghdad and all over the province.

But with all this, the mood is good. Sure, the Soldiers and Marines complain, but that is their right. When it comes to the mission, the troops step out and do what needs to be done.

"I know when we look back on this in five or 10 years, we won't remember the hardships, except to laugh about them," said Army Capt. Eric Stainbrook, Apache Company commander at 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry. "But I will always remember these amazing Soldiers and the way they took on the mission when their country asked them to."

(Dog) Gone... But Not Forgotten!
By McKinsey

In 1609, German astronomer Johannes Kepler determined that a planet orbits the sun in an ellipse, rather than a circle. He also coined the word "satellite" for the moons of any planet.

In 1979, country music star Crystal Gayle of Paintsville, Kentucky became the first country music singer to perform in China.

In 1960, Decca Records in England destroyed 25,000 copies of Ray Peterson's tragic-ending pop song, "Tell Laura I Love Her," calling it "too tasteless and vulgar for the English sensibility." Later, singer Ricky Valance, took the song to number one in England, and Peterson's original version reached number seven in the U.S.

In 1919, a junior high textbook, *Community Health*, used from 1919 to 1936, stated: "the harmful substance in tobacco is nicotine, which is a narcotic...its effect is distinctly poisonous."

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Active duty may also be affected by VA data theft

by Sgt. SARA WOOD, USA
American Forces Press Service

The Defense Department is working to determine exactly how many active duty and Reserve servicemembers could be affected by the recent theft of personal information from a Department of Veterans Affairs employee's home, a DoD official said.

DoD is working equally hard to ensure servicemembers are informed about the issue and protected, said Bill Carr, deputy undersecretary of defense for military personnel policy.

"We're going to make it easy by working with VA for servicemembers," he said.

VA announced yesterday that the personal data of as many as 1.1 million active duty servicemembers, 430,000 members of the National Guard, and 645,000 members of the reserves could be included in the information, which was loaded onto discs and taken home by a VA employee in May. The employee loaded some of the information onto his laptop computer, which was later stolen from his home.

The numbers reported yesterday are preliminary findings and represent

the worst-case scenario, Carr said.

When DoD learned June 1 that some current servicemembers could have been affected by the data loss, officials asked Veterans Affairs for all the Social Security numbers in the database available to the employee, Carr said.

These numbers were checked against databases at the Defense Manpower Data Center.

For now, people should assume that 80 percent of the active-duty force and 90 percent of the Selected Reserve — National Guard and Reserve members affiliated with units — are vulnerable to personal data theft, Carr said. The vulnerable information includes names, Social Security numbers, and dates of birth, he said.

Carr said DoD should have more firm numbers of who could be affected in a couple of days, but for now all servicemembers should be vigilant and look for changes in their credit or financial status.

Servicemembers seeking more information on the data loss can visit <http://www.firstgov.gov> and call toll-free 800-FED-INFO (800-333-4636).

Each features up-to-date news and information on the data compromise.

Justice Jottings

On April 20, a 22-year-old male PV2 was cited for wrongful use of ecstasy. He was found guilty at an Article 15 hearing, reduced to PV1, forfeited \$640 for two months, ordered to serve 45 days extra duty, and received 45 days of restriction.

On May 1, a 32-year-old male SGT was cited for wrongful use of marijuana. He was found guilty at an Article 15 hearing, reduced to SPC, and forfeited \$1,015 for two months.

On May 1, a 21-year-old male SPC was cited for assault and disorderly conduct. He was found guilty at an Article 15 hearing and was forfeited \$410.

On May 5, a 21-year-old female SPC was cited for wrongfully communicating a threat, assault, and disorderly conduct. She was found guilty at an Article 15 hearing, reduced to PFC, forfeited \$927 for two months, ordered to serve 45 days extra duty, and received 45 days of restriction.

On May 8, a 26-year-old male SPC was cited for drunk driving and fleeing the scene of the accident. He was found guilty at an Article 15 hearing, reduced to PFC, and ordered to serve 30 days extra duty. He also

received a General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand.

On May 17, a 28-year-old male SGT was cited for wrongful use of ecstasy. He was found guilty at an Article 15 hearing, reduced to SPC, ordered to serve 45 days extra duty and received 45 days of restriction.

On May 17, a 22-year-old male SGT was cited for assault and communicating threat. He was found guilty at an Article 15 hearing, reduced to SPC, ordered to serve 45 days extra duty, and received 45 days of restriction.

On May 17, a 22-year-old male SPC was cited for assault and disorderly conduct. He was found guilty at an Article 15, ordered to serve 30 days extra duty, and received 30 days restriction.

On May 18, a 26-year-old male SGT was cited for wrongful use of ecstasy. He was found guilty at an Article 15, reduced to SPC, ordered to serve 45 days extra duty, and received 45 days of restriction.

On May 18, a 36-year-old male SPC was cited for drunk driving. He was

found guilty at an Article 15 hearing, reduced to PFC, and ordered to serve 45 days of restriction. He also received a General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand.

On May 18, a 29-year-old male SSG was cited for failing to report for duty and disorderly conduct. He was found guilty at an Article 15 hearing, forfeited \$1,256 for two months, ordered to serve extra duty for 30 days, and received 14 days restriction.

On May 18, a 25-year-old female SSG was cited for drunk driving. She was found guilty at an Article 15 hearing, forfeited \$1,209 for two months, and received a General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand.

On May 18, a 24-year-old male SGT was cited for adultery and fraternization. He was found guilty at an Article 15 hearing, reduced to SPC, and received 45 days of restriction.

On May 22, a 20-year-old male SPC was cited for wrongful previous overindulgence in intoxicating liquor. He was found guilty at an Article 15 hearing and was ordered to serve 45 days extra duty.

Bavarian News Health Corner

DON'T GET ATTACHED!

Outdoor activities increase risk of tick bites

What you don't know about prevention, removal can hurt you



by Capt. MATTHEW PERRY
USAG G Environmental Science Officer

It is that time of the year again here in Bavaria.

The season for outdoor activity is upon us and will take many of us far into the beautiful landscape of Europe on bike trails, Volksmarches, and weekend camping trips.

While these activities are a wonderful way to get attached to nature, we need to be sure we don't get nature too attached to us.

of the heart, intermittent bouts of arthritis in large joints (commonly the knees), and problems with sleeping, concentration, and even short-term memory. In most cases, Lyme disease can be treated with antibiotics. In a small percentage of patients, problems with joint and muscle pain, fatigue, and memory defects can persist months to years after treatment.

Tick-Borne Encephalitis (TBE), also known as Fruehsommermeningoenzephalitis in Germany, is a disease that is not seen in the U.S., but occurs in Europe and other parts of the world.

This disease, like Lyme disease, is spread by the bite of infected *Ixodes* ticks. Unlike Lyme disease, a person can also get this disease by drinking raw milk from sheep, goats, and cows infected with the virus.

Symptoms

A person with TBE can go one to two weeks without any symptoms of the infection. Following this, the disease will follow a characteristic two-phase period. The first phase lasts two to four days and can cause fever, headache, loss of appetite, muscle aches, nausea and/or vomiting. Then there will be a period of about 8 days where the virus will go into remission.

After this period, about 20-30% of infected people will enter the second phase of the disease. This will involve the nervous system and cause inflammation of the brain or the brain lining, or both.

Because this disease is caused by a virus and not a bacterium, antibiotics are not effective in treating it. In severe cases, hospitalization is necessary.

In about 1 to 2% of the cases, death will ensue after about five to seven

days. There is a non-FDA approved vaccine available in Europe.

Prevention is key

The prevention of both of these diseases is the same: avoid tick bites.

Ticks have a way of sensing heat and carbon dioxide from long distances and will climb to the tops of long stalks of grass or other vegetation and wait until an animal (or human) walks by and brushes up against them. Ticks will then attach to their host and begin feeding. In order to reproduce, male and female ticks require this blood meal.

Depending on the type of tick, females can lay from several hundred to several thousand eggs.

To prevent being bit, avoid areas of overgrown brush, unmowed yards, and fields that back up into wooded areas where wild animals live. Before going out hiking, camping or playing in high brush areas, be sure to use precautions.

available to treat military uniforms, but the recommended method is the Individual Dynamic Absorbent kit (NSN 6840-01-345-0237).

Easier removal

Additionally, wearing light colored clothing may make it easier to see ticks when they initially attach to the skin and thereby, make their removal easier.

Wearing long pants and tucking them into socks or hiking boots will make it harder for ticks to find exposed skin to feed on. Aerosol cans of permethrin are available in Germany at many pharmacies (apoteles) to treat civilian clothing.

Many outdoor clothing suppliers provide permethrin treated garments through mail or on-line ordering.

Apply DEET to exposed areas of the skin as directed by the label, but do not apply to children under two months old. Also, avoid milk that has not been pasteurized.

include Lyme disease, Ehrlichia, and Rickettsial. Prevention is the best way to protect your pets.

Several products are available: topical flea and tick medication and prescription tick collars. The collars are for dogs only and should last for about 3 months at a time. They are best used in addition to the topical medication. Do not use OFF or DEET on pets.

If you see a tick on your pet, don't panic. It is important to note that you may still see ticks on your pet even when using a topical medication, but most likely they are dead or dying. Ticks often have to be attached more than 24 - 48 hours to spread infection and remember, not all ticks are infectious!

Tick season in Europe

In Europe, tick season is April through October. Ticks here in Germany, as in the States, can carry several potentially deadly diseases for us and our pets.

Two common diseases seen here are Lyme disease, caused by the bacteria group *Borrelia*, and Tick-Borne Encephalitis, caused by the virus *tick-borne encephalitis virus*. Both are transmitted through the bite of an infected *Ixodes* tick. Neither disease is spread person-to-person.

Lyme disease can occur in the U.S. as well as here in Europe. A person with Lyme disease may develop fever, headache, fatigue, and a very characteristic skin rash called erythema migrans.

This rash is sometimes referred to as a "bulls-eye" rash because it is red and circular in appearance, and as it grows (which can be up to 12 inches) will often lose the red appearance in the center of the rash.

If the disease is left untreated, it can worsen and cause swelling of the brain, facial paralysis, pain, and numbness in the hands and feet, enlargement and inflammation

Measures you can take

Soldiers already know these as the "DOD Arthropod Repellent System." This system includes wearing permethrin treated uniforms, applying DEET to exposed areas of the skin, and properly wearing the uniform (sleeves rolled down and pants tucked into boot tops).

It should be noted that the new ACUs do not come pre-treated with permethrin. There are several methods



Ticks can spread bacterial infection to pets.

Smooth and steady

If a tick is found, removal should be done promptly but carefully by using fine tip tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible and pulling up in a smooth, steady motion.

After removal, clean the area with soap and water and apply an antiseptic.

Do not use home remedies, such as hot matches, fire, fingernails, polish, or other extreme methods.

Wearing flea collars on a person's body, directly or over clothes, is not only ineffective but can be very dangerous as the pesticides in the flea collars can concentrate in the skin and cause skin and internal organ damage.

For your pets

Ticks also spread bacterial infections to pets. These infections

Wash your hands

Tick removal for pets is the same as for humans. Always wash your hands after removing ticks from yourself or your pet.

Summer is a great time to get out and spend time with family and friends. So, be aware of your environment, take the necessary precautions to ensure a safe and fun time, and have a great Bavarian day!

For more information, call me at DSN 475-8586, contact your local health care provider, or visit <http://www.cdcp.gov/>, or <http://www.afpmb.org/>.

Special thanks to Col. John Grabenstein, Lt. Col. David West, Lt. Col. Carlheinz Stokes, and Capt. Kristina McElroy for contributing to this article.

FRONTLINE NEWS | AL QAEDA LEADER DIES IN SAFE HOUSE

Al-Zarqawi's death 'serious blow'

by GERRY GILMORE
American Forces Press Service

The death of al Qaeda's top operative in Iraq will hit the terrorist organization hard, a senior U.S. military officer said in Baghdad Thursday.

Dead terrorist Abu Musab al Zarqawi is "no longer able to terrorize innocent Iraqi civilians," Army Maj. Gen. William B. Caldwell told reporters at a press briefing.

Caldwell said Zarqawi was known to have masterminded myriad attacks against American, coalition and Iraqi security forces in Iraq. He was also responsible for bombings and other attacks that have killed hundreds of innocent Iraqi citizens, the general said.

Zarqawi's ardent desire, Caldwell said, was to incite a civil war between Sunnis and Shiites that would bring down the new democratic Iraqi

Top insurgent killed in F-16 air raid

government. However, "the elimination of Zarqawi has dealt a serious blow to al Qaeda in Iraq," Caldwell said.

Fingerprinting provided a positive identification of Zarqawi's body, Caldwell, the spokesman for Multinational Force Iraq, said. Testing results from samples of Zarqawi's DNA are pending, he said.

Two U.S. Air Force F-16 fighters attacked a safe house near the town of Baqubah yesterday, killing Zarqawi, his spiritual adviser, Sheik Abdul Rahman and four other persons, Caldwell said.

The fighters dropped two 500-pound bombs on the building. Zarqawi was dead when Iraqi police and U.S. military forces arrived on the scene, he said.

The successful operation "was the

product of painstaking intelligence-gathering from local sources and within Zarqawi's network," Caldwell said.

Intelligence sources believe that Zarqawi came to Iraq sometime in 2002, Caldwell said, noting he was a key target of U.S. anti-terrorism efforts in Iraq since December 2003.

Caldwell said intelligence agents had obtained information about Rahman's comings and goings as well as interactions with Zarqawi.

Military officials were convinced that Zarqawi and Rahman were at the safe house before commencing the air strike, Caldwell said.

During the briefing the general showed slide-projected photo of Zarqawi's face in death, as well as maps depicting the area of the attack.

Although the terrorist's demise



Fingerprinting provided a positive ID of Zarqawi's body.

Army News Service Web site

will negatively impact al Qaeda operations in Iraq, Caldwell cautioned that this doesn't signal the end of the insurgency in Iraq.

Zarqawi most likely designated a successor in the event of his capture or death, the general said.

Caldwell said al Qaeda in Iraq likely "will try to incite violence over the next few days to reassert themselves to show that they are still a viable insurgent organization."

However, Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki has vowed to make security his top priority, the general said, noting the Iraqi government today also announced the selection of the interior, defense and national security ministers.

Zarqawi's death marks "a stride in the direction of law and order in Iraq that is primed for the future by a government that respects the rights of all Iraqi citizens," said Caldwell.

Seeing, being seen key to staying alive on European roads

USAG G Safety Office

Driving in Germany is a thrill that many people in the States would give anything to experience.

We have the privilege of traveling to castles and fests just minutes from home, and within a few hours we can be in another country enjoying the Alps or the Eifel Tower.

The privilege of driving in Germany does come with the responsibility to be good road stewards by obeying traffic laws and respecting other drivers.

It is our responsibility to blend in with our native neighbors while traveling local roads and the Autobahn.

One challenge to safe driving is the ever changing weather that tends to make visibility on the roads difficult at times.

In Bavaria, we experience heavy rains, snow, and heavy fog that frequently develop with the shifting weather conditions.

That is why it is important to be able to effectively see where you're driving, and it is equally important to be seen by others on the road.

- if caught violating the fog light rule.
- Ensure your headlights are clean and frequently inspect the headlights. Nobody wants to be the pididdle on the road. Pididdle is a car game in which you try to be the first person to point out a car with a burnt out head or tail light, called a "pididdle".
 - Sometimes your windows get fogged up inside. Don't be a peephole driver who clears just enough of the windshield to see out. You loose peripheral vision and become a danger to other drivers.
 - Ensure your windshield wipers are functional and adequate fluid is in the reservoir.
 - To be Seen:
 - When in doubt use your headlights.
 - Some drivers in the middle of a daytime downpour do not use their headlights. Oncoming drivers may have difficulty seeing another driver in such conditions.
 - Driving with parking lights on is not permitted and may earn you a traffic violation.
 - If you are stranded on the side of a roadway and must get out of your vehicle, wear a brightly colored and reflective vest. It is the law in several European countries.
 - Ensure tail lights are working. You surely don't want to be hit from behind because you were not seen.



Drivers should use their headlights in low-visibility weather.

■ Fog lights cannot be used when visibility is greater than 100 meters or within city limits. Fog lights are very bright and can be blinding to oncoming traffic under normal visibility.

You will also receive a fine by the Polizei

Follow these tips as you do your pre-trip inspections of your vehicle. See the wonders of Europe and be seen on the roads as you travel. Drive carefully and remember safety is no accident.



Photo by Sue Bluhm

Eighty-year-old VFW post chaplain Joseph McCarthy recites a prayer in memory of service members who made the ultimate sacrifice during Grafenwoehr's 2006 Memorial Day Ceremony May 25.

BuyAAFES gas coupons in advance for additional savings

Continued From Page 1

that purchasing AAFES gas is a privilege they can still enjoy.

"Authorized customers are fortunate to have the privilege to purchase gasoline at AAFES gas stations and off post with gas coupons," she said. "I had to fill up once or twice on the economy without the benefit of gas coupons and was quickly reminded that it costs twice as much on the economy."

"Plus, with gas coupons customers can purchase them in advance of a price increase saving them even more in the months to come," said Byerly.

According to the Department of Energy, the reason for record high retail gas prices across the United States for 2006 is due to several factors:

- crude oil prices
- reduced gasoline production
- increased demand
- the switch from MTBE to ethanol in reformulated gasoline.

Even with record prices, consumption of gasoline remains high and, with summer travel about to begin, the DoE predicts gasoline prices will do the same.

For the four weeks ending May 22, the DoE average price for all grades of gasoline and diesel increased over the previous five-week average ending April 24.

According to DoE, the average price for regular unleaded fuel in the U.S. is 75.8 cents a gallon higher than it was at the same time last year.

June 2006 sell prices in Europe will reflect the following average changes per gallon, by grade:

- Regular +\$.301
- Mid-grade + \$.301
- Premium + \$.295
- Diesel + \$.205

"Sell prices for gasoline in Europe are established each month, so the prices will change again on July 1," said Byerly.

The first step in setting Europe prices is to consult the DoE average survey, by grade, for the previous four or five weeks, she said.

Those survey prices are found on the Energy Information Administration web page at www.eia.doe.gov and include surveys of over 900 CONUS gas stations.

"To those averages AAFES adds each country's unique incremental dispensing costs. These incremental dispensing costs include, where applicable, costs for labor in foreign markets, depreciation of equipment, as well as costs related to the gas coupon management program (printing, accounting, warehousing, selling and redemption of those coupons)," said Byerly. "This policy enables AAFES to keep the price of gas overseas closely associated with the price of gasoline customers pay in the U.S."

Specific Army & Air Force Exchange overseas fuel prices for the month of June 2006, based on the previous four-week DoE average, will be as follows:

- Netherlands:**
Super Unleaded - \$3.186
Super Plus Unleaded - \$3.300
Diesel - \$3.066
- United Kingdom:**
Super Unleaded - \$3.135
Diesel - \$3.016
- Azores:**
Super Unleaded - \$3.243
- Turkey:**
Super Unleaded - \$3.264
Diesel Coupon - \$3.020

Keep immunizations up to date

Continued From Page 1

health care beneficiaries should take this as a reminder to keep their shots up to date."

According to the Centers for Disease Control Web site, measles symptoms begin to appear about 10 to 12 days after exposure to the virus. The infected person first experiences a fever lasting about two to four days that can peak as high as 105 degrees F. This is followed by the cough, runny nose, and/or pink

eye. The rash usually appears about 14 days after exposure and lasts five to six days. It begins at the hairline, and involves the face and upper neck. The rash gradually reaches the hands and feet.

The Nordrhein-Westfalen state is just north of the Rheinland-Pfalz, the German state that is host to major American military communities. Those include Wiesbaden and the Kaiserslautern American military community, the largest concentration of American military members outside the U.S.

A Day in the Life of a ...

COB Civilian on the Battlefield

Story and photos by **KIM DIANO**
Staff writer

Attention wanna-be actors and actresses!

Hohenfels Joint Multinational Readiness Center is looking for interested local nationals who would like to live in extreme weather conditions, fake injuries, speak in their various native tongues, and construct and paint buildings all while training American Soldiers on how to interact with foreigners.

Civilians on the battlefields actors, or COBS, do just that.

Realistic training

In order to provide thousands of American Soldiers with realistic battlefield training, JMRC depends heavily on German local nationals employed as COBs to portray priests, shop owners, and villagers in urban combat training sites built by the Army.

The local nationals act out scenarios planned by the operations staff and rehearse to ensure the scenes are acted out as close to reality as possible.

While ad-libbing and off-the-cuff dialogue takes place between the Soldiers and COBs, all participants have been briefed on the meticulously planned scenarios.

Day-to-day life

Tromping through ankle deep mud and snow, COBs go about their make-believe lives, setting up flea markets, running cafes, and other day-to-day activities in towns and villages reproduced from real world locations.

All COBs speak German, some speak Russian, and most have

understand English, but when the Soldiers "come to town," the COBs speak only their native tongues to set the realistic tone for the training troops.

COBs that are employed in the training area known as the Box work rotating shifts.

When necessary, contract COBs are hired and may work and stay in the box for a 24 hours a day until a rotation ends. This is the case when there are not enough regular COBs to fill the villages for large training rotations.

Personal time

Contract COBs take personal time for sleep, rest, and hygiene in a building similar to a barracks, complete with open bay sleeping areas. They eat Meals Ready to Eat, or MREs, for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The regularly hired COBs bring their own meals to the towns.

While waiting for exercises to begin, COBs socialize with one another and the Soldiers.

In addition, there are Professional, or Pro COBs, who act out key roles in the villages.

The Pro COBs are U.S. government service employees and former or retired military members. In addition to playing significant roles in the scenarios, they also help coordinate work schedules for contract COBs and rehearse scenes so they run smoothly.

Every COB, Pro COB, and Soldier is required to wear MILES, or multiple integrated laser engagement system, gear. MILES gear simulates the firing and effects of actual weapons systems by using eye safe laser "bullets."

Each MILES-clad Soldier has a detection system to sense hits and perform casualty assessment. Laser transmitters are attached to each Soldier, and when a Soldier is "shot," the equipment beeps, accurately replicating actual ranges and lethality of weapon systems.

The Soldiers are not allowed to touch or manhandle COBs. This treatment they will save for the opposing force, or OPFOR, Soldiers.

The realistic training includes the Soldiers working their way from town to town, cordoning areas in search of high-value targets. Sometimes the missions run smoothly, and other times units are hit by simulated improvised explosive devices, or IEDs, hidden in parked cars or on the side of the roads.

Death of a Soldier

When a Soldier is "killed" during a scenario, he will sit out for 24 hours to give his buddies in training a sense of individual and manpower loss. These losses can throw off the scenarios because it unpredictable how troops will react to the stressful situations.

The COBs provide the ultimate in realistic urban warfare training, allowing U.S. Soldiers to assess what they've done right and wrong before they set off to real world locations. It is the duty of these employees to ensure troops are prepared for the situations they will face in Afghanistan, Iraq, or wherever they deploy.

This reporter would like to thank our COBs for helping save the lives of American Soldiers on the battlefield.



After an IED simulation, a civil affairs Soldier treats a town resident injured by the explosion.



A simulated IED blows up a parked truck in town as civil affairs Soldiers come to check on residents.



Hiding insurgents wait to attack Blue Force Soldiers who come through town.



Medics come to evacuate "dead" and "wounded" Soldiers and villagers after an IED explosion.

Army streamlines uniform to blue ASU

Army News Service

Army service uniforms will be streamlined to one blue Army Service Uniform, the Army announced June 6.

"World-class Soldiers deserve a simplified, quality uniform. The blue Army Service Uniform is a traditional uniform that is consistent with the Army's most honored traditions," said Sgt. Maj. Of the Army Kenneth O. Preston.

Simple tradition

"We have all of these variations of uniforms - green, blue and white," said Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker. "It makes sense for us to go to one traditional uniform that is really sharp and high quality and which Soldiers will be very proud to wear. And that's what we've done by adopting this blue Army Service Uniform that reflects simplicity, quality, utility and tradition."

Many Soldiers already own an Army blue uniform (now to be called the Army Service Uniform) and may continue to wear it.

Reducing the burden

Improvements will be made to the fabric and

fit. Reduction of the number of uniforms will reduce the burden on Soldiers for purchases and alteration cost.

Introduction in the Army Military Clothing Sales Stores should begin in fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007.

Introduction in the Clothing Bag should begin first quarter 2009. The Mandatory Possession Date is expected to be fourth quarter fiscal year 2011.

A wear-out date for the Army Green Class A and White dress uniforms will be determined at a later date.

Soldier acceptance

The consolidation of Army service uniforms is part of a streamlining process. In 2004, the Army reduced the number of battle dress uniforms from three to one when it adopted the Army Combat Uniform in place of the Woodland Green Battle Dress Uniform (winter and summer versions) and the Desert Combat Uniform.

That uniform consolidation has been a resounding success in terms of soldier acceptance and reducing the variety of combat uniforms with which they must deal.

Army Blue as a uniform color traces its origins back to the National Blue and was first worn by Soldiers in the Continental Army.

Besides tradition, the Army Service Uniform reflects utility, simplicity and quality.

Goodbye greens

In utility, the blue Army Service Uniform provides a basic set of components that allow Soldiers to dress from the lowest end to the highest end of service uniforms with little variation required.

In simplicity, the blue Army Service Uniform eliminates the need for numerous sets of green Class A uniforms, service blue uniforms and, for some, Army white mess uniforms (and tunics, for women).

Streamlining various service uniforms into one Army Service Uniform reduces the burden on Soldiers in the same manner that the Army Combat Uniform did for the field utility uniform.

In quality, the blue Army Service Uniform is made of a durable material that is suitable for daily use without special care.

Information about the blue Army Service Uniform and its composition is available at <http://www.army.mil/symbols/uniforms>.

Temp employees keep job despite budget woes

Continued From Page 1

activities for units and personnel identified for the OIF/OEF deployment.

"IMA-Europe is pleased by the decision of Army leadership to grant relief from termination to our temporary employees," said IMA-Europe Region Director Russell B. Hall. "We are also grateful that we will be able to proceed with our summer hire program for our younger family members."

"We were able to make the case that although budget curtailments are necessary, the cost should not be borne by our temporary employees, many of whom are family members of deployed and deploying service members," he said. "Unlike their stateside counterparts, our temporary employees have fewer outside the gate employment opportunities."

(Stay tuned to the CIC and AFN for USAG Grafenwoehr Summer Hire info.)

The Bavarian News salutes the U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr Class of 2006!

“You cannot help but learn more as you take the world into your hands. Take it up reverently, for it is an old piece of clay, with millions of thumbprints on it.”

John Updike



Vilseck Middle High School

Allen, Jules	Hunter, Matthew E.	Rojo, Jose R.
Anderson, Carrie K.	Jones, Derrick C.	Ruzicka, Eric R.
Arbolay, Heather A.	Josey, Andrew	Schaffer, Byron P.
Argueta, Nicole A.	Klein, Michael S.	Schobin, John M.
Boggs, Daniel A.	LaVelle, Cassi R.	Schopf, Ralf H.
Campbell, Ashley N.	Leiato, Tiffany	Selvage, Michael K.
Coleman, Maurice E.	Lindsay, Angela N.	Sutton, Christopher
Dunbar, Rickey Jr.	McGaffin, Alexis J.	Thomas, Christoper W.
Emanus, Michael	McLaughlin, Shannon M.	Tolbert, Miranda N.
Feliciano, Mychael A.	Miera, Andrea M.	Webb, Christopher M.
Fry, Cody D.	Miller, Selina A.	Wetta, David R.
Gonzalez, Sergio	Palacio, Ashley M.	Wetta, Douglas R.
Green, Jasmine N.	Powers, Margaret A.	Williams, Adrian M.
Haynes, Sabrina	Raybon, Chanissa O.	
Hood, Barrett C.	Reyna-Reyes, Harley A.	

Hohenfels High School

Laura Adams	Daniel Lehfeld
Kalani Afelin	Daniel Mateo
Jordan Allen-Baxter	Jason McBride
Matt Apodaca	Lauren Mitchell
Tyler Arnett	Alex Orona
Wes Arnold	Vasi Papadopoulos
Christina Bledsoe	Bethany Parks
Dawn Clagett	Jason Parks
Chris Cote	Raiko Perez
Alex Cruz	Jimmy Pietras
Natasha Hettler	Emily Sherrill
Chelsea Hodges	Patrick Smith
Karl Hoeh	Christopher Tsesmelis
Michael Hoss	Vanessa Velez
Melissa Kahler	



For more information on these and other activities, stop by or call your local library.

Graf: 475-1740 ■ Vilseck: 476-1740 ■ Hohenfels: 466-1740

Stop by your local library for summer fun, adventure

Grafenwoehr Library

Very Pet-icular Fun!

The Grafenwoehr Library 2006 Summer Reading Program captures the youthful fun of having a pet. Paws, Claws, Scales, and Tales is a guided exploration for community youth through books, movies, activities, and events. Throughout the summer the library staff will be hosting fun and frolic with stories of puppy dogs, cats, ferrets, and guinea pigs. The Summer Reading Program will begin June 30 and will continue through the second week of August. Children ages 2 to 14 are invited to participate. Stop by to register your children and pick up the reading log and suggested reading list.

Join us on a journey to the center of the earth!

In the edge-of-your-seat 1959 movie starring James Mason and Pat Boone, an Edinburgh professor and his colleagues follow an explorer's trail down an extinct Icelandic volcano to the earth's center. Along the way, the group runs into prehistoric monsters and encounters all sorts of dangers. It is an exciting and spine tingling movie. At the time, traveling to the center of the earth was just fantasy. That fantasy, however, is fast becoming reality. The International Continental Scientific Drilling Program began in Germany in 1978 with the working group of the German Geoscientific Commission of the Science Foundation.

The German government approved the project in 1980, and in 1986 Windeseschenbach in the Oberpfalz was chose as the drilling site. By 1989 the drilling had reached a depth of 4,000 meters (13,114.75 feet). In 1994, a mere eight years after choosing the site, the drill reached its final depth of 10,000 meters (32,786.89 feet). Come and join us as we tour the drilling project in Windeseschenbach on June 21. We will depart the Grafenwoehr Library at 1:30 p.m. and the Rose Barracks Langenbruck Center at 1 p.m. The cost is \$5 for adults plus €2 and \$3 for children plus €1. We won't experience the adventures of the Edinburgh professor and his team, but we will have lots of fun!

Matheson lauds discipline, sacrifice of garrison's college graduates

USAG H Army Education Center

The Army Continuing Education System provides students with a quality foundation for critical thinking, character building, and leadership skills necessary for lifelong living and learning. ACES believe that the educational experiences they offer Soldiers, Department of the Army civilians, and family members is unique and provides a new and exciting way of looking at the world. Education is a stimulus that causes people to grow and with growth adapt to positive change which they share in their personal and professional relationships and within the community. On May 24, Hohenfels' garrison commander, Lt. Col. James Matheson, recognized the 2005-2006 garrison graduates. The degrees earned by the students included eight associates, seven bachelor's, seven master's (level), and one PhD. Matheson applauded their discipline and admired the sacrifices they made to balance mission, personal life, and work schedules to successfully reach the goal of a post secondary degree. The Hohenfels Army Education Center offers a myriad of opportunities to start a degree plan or continue one that you started at another duty station or within the civilian sector.

Whether you take traditional college classes or study "online" it is a perfect time to start your quest for a degree and be one of next year's graduates. The following graduates were presented with the garrison coin and a certificate of achievement:

Kimberly Daniels, BS, Humanities, UMUC	
Garcia, Rudolpho, AAS, mental Health Social Work, UMUC	
Green, Christopher, MA, Human Relations OU	
Jania, Thomas, AA, General Curriculum, UMUC	
Odum, Jamie, MA, Education/Curriculum & Supervision, UOP	
Prescott, Corrie, AA, General Curriculum, UMUC	
Regester, Maria, PhD, Management Science, Walden University	
Shell, Justin, MBA, UOP	
Starks, Evelyn, AA, Business Management, UMUC	
Storkson, Andrea, BS, Business Management, UMUC	
Storkson, Joseph, BS, Business Management, UMUC	
Turner, Robert, BS, Management Studies, UMUC	
Whetstone, Beorn, BS Professional Aeronautics, Embry Riddle Aeronautical	



Recent graduates pose with Garrison Hohenfels commander Lt. Col. James Matheson.

University Whyte, Jamie, AA, General Studies, UMUC The following students received their degrees this year, but did not attend the ceremony:

Bridges, Jason, MA, Human Relations, OU	Crane, Michael, MA, Business and Security Management, Webster University
Clemmons, Kathy, MA, Education/Curriculum & Instruction, UOP	Dick, Norman, BS, Computer Science, UMUC
	Hoffer, Timothy, BS, Professional Aeronautics, Embry Riddle
	Hughes, George, MA, Human Relations, OU
	Murta, Joseph, AA, General Curriculum, UMUC.

Garrison Communities

Summer afghan sale

Afghans with representation of Grafenwoehr, Vilseck, and Hohenfels landmarks can be purchased at your local Red Cross Office through May 31. Cost: one to three afghans, \$40; three or more afghans, \$35. Size - 4' x 6' in burgundy, navy blue, or hunter green.

Battle of Bands, Stars of Tomorrow set July 22

The USAG Hohenfels Battle of the Bands and Stars of Tomorrow competition is scheduled for July 22. Members of all communities are invited to participate. The categories for this year's event are for Bands, Male or Female vocal solo, Vocal duet, Vocal solos - self accompanied, Vocal groups, Instrumental solo, Instrumental group, Specialty groups (including rap, step dance, poetry, etc.). Applications and rules are available at the Community Activities Center (Bldg. 40) or by e-mailing joanne.love1@us.army.mil or calling DSN 466-2340. Deadline for applications is July 17.

You only turn 231 once!

The Patrick Henry Village Pavilion in Heidelberg will host the USAREUR Adjutant General's Corps Ball celebrating the AG's 231st anniversary, July 29 at 6 p.m. Members of the Adjutant General's Corps community, military personnel, retirees, civilians, and guests are invited to attend.

For more information, visit <http://www.1perscom.army.mil>; call DSN 379-6210, CIV 06202-80-6210; or e-mail AGBall@hq.1perscom.army.mil <<mailto:AGBall@hq.1perscom.army.mil>>.

Grafenwoehr/Vilseck Briefs

Lexington Ave.temporarily closed due to construction

Lexington Avenue will be closed through June 19 between the Tower Theater (Bldg. 620) and post headquarters (Bldg 621). Motorists in Bldg. 621 must drive to their parking lot by driving up Gettysburg Road, turning left after the old Shoppette, and making another left at Lexington Avenue. There will be detour signs routing traffic along Gettysburg Avenue.

Vilseck bank hours change

The Community Bank in Vilseck will be closed on the following days this month: Thursday, in observance of Corpus Christi Day, a local holiday. June 28, operating hours changed due to monthly staff training, open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Book appointments online at Vilseck Health Clinic

Did you know you can book medical appointments at the Vilseck Health Clinic without ever using the phone? Appointments can be booked online at <http://www.tricareonline.com> . For information on how to set up a user account, e-mail Capt. Emily Stehr at Emily.stehr@us.army.mil.

Place your free ad in the Bavarian News online

All valid ID cardholders can place free ads in the Bavarian News. Fill out the form at <http://www.rlehner.de/trainingtimes/freeclass.htm>. Be sure to include a contact phone number.

Red Cross seeking full-time field office coordinator

Position: Field Office Coordinator, full-time – temporary for up to six-months. **Location:** Red Cross Vilseck Station **Responsibilities:** Provide emergency communications and casework services. Assist in the planning and administration

of the delivery of health and safety services training. Assist with human resource functions affecting volunteers including recruitment, placement, and utilization. Administer and/or assist in the management of designated volunteer programs on the military installation.

Vilseck UofP seeks field rep

The University of Phoenix, Vilseck Campus, is looking for a part-time field representative. Ideal candidates will have a bachelors degree, strong customer-service skills, attention to detail, and knowledge of the military and educational environments. Send resumes to rachel.burling@phoenix.edu

Part-time teaching positions available with Central Texas

Central Texas College, Vilseck Campus, is looking for part-time instructors for Vilseck in the Automotive/Mechanic program and the Early Childhood Development program. Applicants must have either an Associates degree or higher and a minimum of five years of work experience in the program's field or a bachelor's degree and a minimum of three years work experience in the program's field. For further information, contact Chuck Sligh at DSN 476-2362; CIV 09662-83-2362 or e-mail Vilseck@europe.ctcd.edu.

Office, aide, teacher positions available

If you are interested in an office, aide, or substitute teacher position, please stop by the Grafenwoehr Elementary front office and pick up an application form. The elementary and middle schools will be hiring for these positions for school year 2006/2007.

7th JMTC DRM closure

The 7th Army JMTC Directorate of Resource Managment will be closed June 23 for its annual Works-Outing. Normal business will resume on June 26.

Customer service jobs available at Graf Bank

Grafenwoehr Community Bank is currently accepting employment applications for customer service representatives. Contact Ernestine Robinson at 475-6140 for more information.

Headstart instructors needed at Vilseck Ed Center

The Vilseck Education Center is currently looking for several German Headstart instructors. Applicants should have at least an associates of arts degree with a major in German or entry level qualifications for European University studies. Teaching experience is preferred but not mandatory.

For more information, contact Dave Baker at DSN 476-2457, CIV 09662-832457, or billy.baker1@us.army.mil.

Join Catholic WOC for prayer, discussion, study

The CWOC meets to pray, discuss, and study every second Wednesday in Grafenwoehr, Bldg. 555, and every fourth Wednesday at the Vilseck Chapel 6:30 – 8 p.m. We have just begun "A Catholic Guide to the Bible by Father Lukefahr." Call DSN 476-3696 for more information.

Vilseck Post Exchange, shoppette has new hours

Effective Thursday, the following hours are in effect: **Rose Barracks Shoppette:** Monday to Saturday from 5:30 a.m. to midnight, and Sunday from 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. **Main Exchange:** Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. , and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. **MCSS:** Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. , and closed on Sunday, **Concession Mall:** Hours vary from store to store. See vendor for hours.

Community Bank Change in Operating Hours

The **Grafenwoehr** Community Bank will change its operating hours due to staff training as follows:
■ June 21 - open 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. The bank will be closed:
■ Thursday - Chorpus Christi Day

The **Vilseck** Community Bank will be closed:
■ Thursday - Corpus Christi Day Operating hours will change as follows due to staff training:
■ June 28 - open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Motorcycle gatherings held every other Thursday

Take advantage of an opportunity for motorcycle riders working in the Grafenwoehr/Vilseck area to meet, exchange information, plan rides, and gain experience with local veteran riders. Informal gatherings are held every other Thursday at 6 p.m. at the Thai restaurant across from the Grafenwoehr Schwimmbad. Everyone is welcome. Call 475-1470 for more information.

Revised shuttle bus schedule

The revised bus shuttle schedule can assist you in traveling to the Grafenwoehr and Vilseck posts, and to 2CR Integration and In-processing sites on Vilseck. Shuttles run to and from 11 communities surrounding the Grafenwoehr and Vilseck areas. You can find the bus schedule for your area posted at the bus stop nearest you. If you need help finding the bus stop nearest you, call your sponsor or the garrison DOL at CIV 09641-83-4347 / 6223 or DSN 475-4347 / 6223.

JMTC OCS Board packets due no later than June 26

JMTC Officer Candidate School Board will be conducted July 11at 9 a.m. in Bldg. 621. Soldiers' packets are due to the G1 no later than June 26. Please ensure that all packets are thoroughly reviewed prior to submission. Call 475-7190 for information.

Ration Card Update

Ration cards are only issued in Bldg. 244 (Room 240) at Grafenwoehr. The office is closed on Thursdays. Soldiers, family members and civilians (18 year of age or older) must have their own U.S. military I.D. card and be present in order to receive a ration card. Expired cards must be turned in.

Youth Ministry serving Vilseck and Grafenwoehr

MCYM/Club Beyond is a chapel-sponsored youth ministry serving the Vilseck and Grafenwoehr communities. It offers a place to belong for junior high and high school students. Come and check out the programs: **HS Club** Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Vilseck Chapel Fellowship Hall **Jr. High Club** Fridays, 3:30 to 5 p.m. Vilseck MHS, Home Economics Room

Small groups are available. Contact Club Beyond for dates and times. For interested adults, volunteering with Club Beyond can be the adventure of a lifetime. We'll match the job to your gifts and abilities. For more information, call Aretta at CIV 0160-9876-9678 or e-mail aretta.zitta@graf.eur.army.mil.

Customs Office hours of operation change

New operation hours will be as follows: **Vilseck** Bldg. 700, Room 18 Monday to Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m.; Friday from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. **Grafenwoehr** Upstairs of MP Station, Bldg. 506, Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. For more information, call DSN 476-2105 or CIV 09662-83-2105.

Learn your new culture at Welcome to Bavaria

Discover Bavaria's culture, language, and traditions during a three-day Welcome to Bavaria orientation. A bus tour of the area is included. The orientation will be held at the Outdoor Recreation in Vilseck, Bldg. 2236. Call 476-2650 for information.

Dates: Tuesday through June 22 Aug. 1-3* Sept. 19-21* July 11-13* Aug. 8-10 Sept. 26-28* * Childcare is provided

Pay attention to new road closures, detour signs

The following road closures or construction will be in effect as follows. Stay tuned to the Command Information Channel and look in your garrison e-newsletter for updates.
■ Closure of Lexington Avenue through Monday.
■ Flag pole area in front of Bldg. 621 through Friday
■ Gettysburg Avenue will be open for one-lane traffic only on Saturday and Sunday.
■ Gettysburg Avenue will be closed in mid August. Traffic will be detoured through Lexington Avenue.
■ Closure of Childers Street (around Consolidated Parking) up to Dining Facility through December.
■ The Tank Road along the tank wash facility will be narrowed through July 7.
■ Complete closure of the east end of the Tank Road (near tank wash facility) from June 26 to 7 July.
■ Gettysburg Avenue in front of Bldg. 622 will be reduced to a one-lane road through June 26.

Hohenfels Briefs

Confidential marriage, family therapy available

Social Work Services (Bldg. 747) offers ongoing professional therapy for individuals, families, and couples. You have a "Right to Privacy." Jacque Cummings, LMFT, is the Marriage, Family Therapist at Hohenfels for ongoing confidential counseling. Everyone has a time in his or her life when they feel "stuck." Couples find themselves under stress and unable to communicate effectively or amenably at times. Therapy is a way to get the help you need to move past that bumpy place. A therapist who becomes familiar with you and your needs and one you can trust is vital to that healing process. Call for an appointment: DSN 466-4625 or CIV 09472-83-4625.

Step aerobics cancelled

The Tuesday and Thursday morning step aerobics classes will be canceled after Thursday.

Babysitter training scheduled Monday

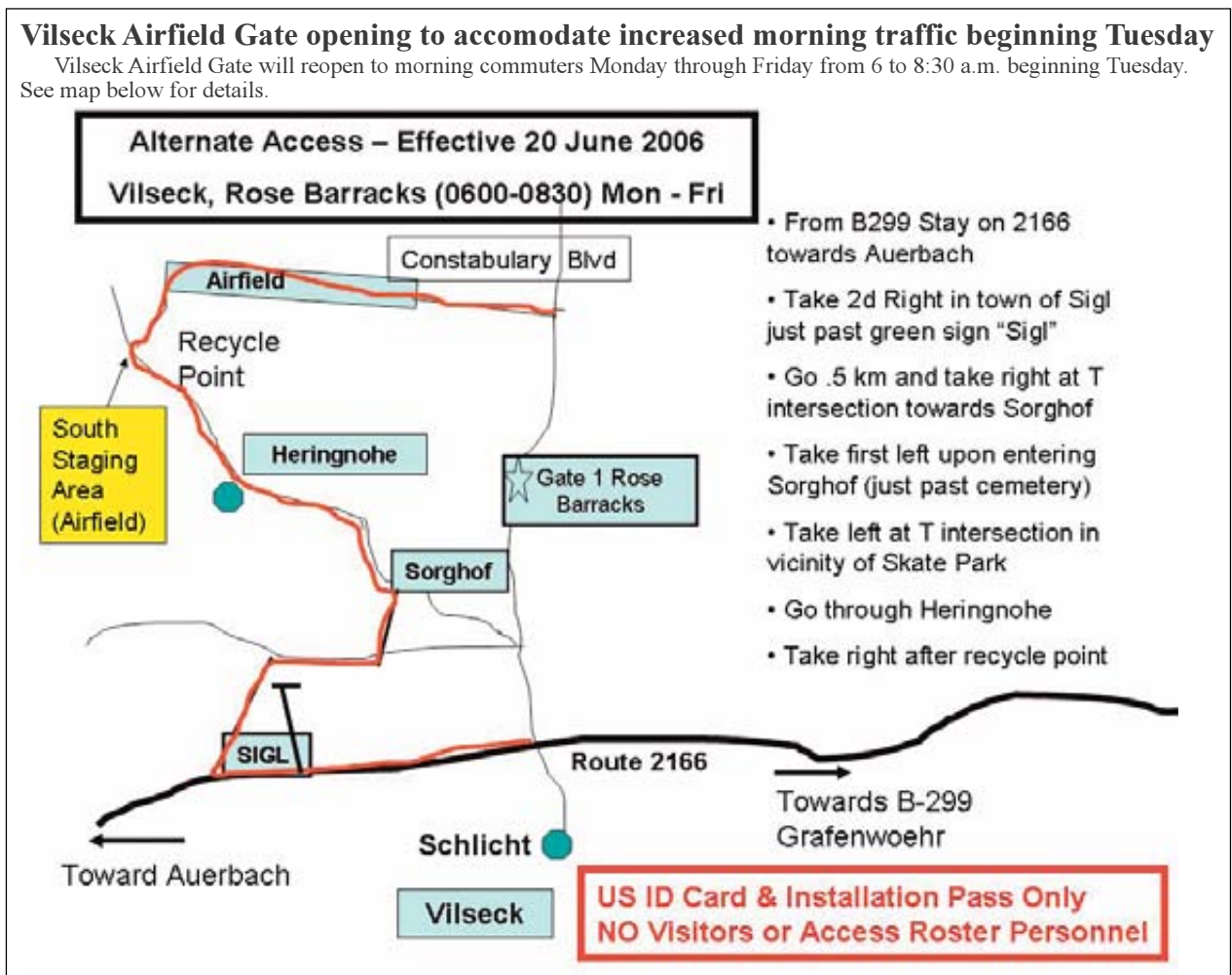
Training for babysitters is scheduled for Monday. Students must be between the ages of 11 and 15. Where: Hohenfels Red Cross, Bldg. 335, from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Cost: \$35 Registration & payment due by: 16 June Make payments at CLEOS (Bldg. 96) Contact CLEOS: 09472-83-2078/ 2080 Teens 13 years and up have the option with parental consent to be in the CDS Babysitter referral program and earn extra income. Note: All participants must bring a sack lunch.

Library closed for inventory

The Hohenfels Library will be closed for inventory July 3 - 8. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Reserve space today in motorcycle safety class

To reserve a class space for MSF Motorcycle Safety Classes at Hohenfels, call DSN 475-1470 or e-mail: safetygraf@graf.eur.army.mil Experienced Rider Course: July 26 Experienced Rider Course: Aug. 22 Basic Rider Course: Aug. 23-24 Experienced Rider Course: Sept. 26 *Note: USAREUR requires that all motorcyclists complete the Experienced Rider Course MSF training, if their last MSF card is over three years old.*



2006 World Cup

New to European soccer?

Haven't kept up with who's who?

Take a look at who's **HOT**... and who's *not*

in a recap of the 32 teams

chasing the world title.

by MATT CALIRI
Special to the Bavarian News

The trophy is to football lovers what the image of Christ is to Catholics," said Brazilian journalist Carlos De Miguel, describing the Jules Rimet trophy, which is presented quadrennially to the greatest team in the greatest show in the universe.

Fortunately, all the games are played on planet Earth. And super fortunately for us, they are being played on German soil this year.

The game is soccer to us Americans, but its true name is football, or futbol, or fussball. Whatever... The World Cup party started Friday in venues across the country.

There are 32 teams in the cup chase and there are more new names than in any World Cup since 1930. And since Americans, for the most part, know little about soccer, here's some background on each of the teams:

Group A

Let's start with **Germany** since we're in their house and they are a football super power.

They waltz into this year's Cup with three world titles and have qualified for every World Cup since its inception.

Only Brazil has won more cups and been in more finals. Lucas Podolski and captain Michael Ballack are players to watch.

Costa Rica is making its third appearance at the World Cup, having gone to the final round in 1990 and 2002. Their biggest star, striker Paulo Wanchope, will retire after this year.

Poland has been third twice, once in Spain '82 and in Germany in '74. Their return to Germany is not without a bone to pick and revenge in their eyes toward the Germans. They were beaten by Germany 32 years ago on a slushy field that many thought was too waterlogged for play.

The slower German team benefited. A goal-bound strike by the Poles that was stopped by a puddle in the controversial game is replayed on Polish television to this day.

Ecuador is relatively new to the scene, having qualified for their first World Cup in Korea/Japan 2002. But they aren't unprepared. Accompanying them is a shaman who will banish evil spirits from all Cup venues prior to the games.

Group B:

Since **England's** 1966 World Cup win on home soil, their best is reaching the semi-finals in 1990, where they lost to, who else, Germany.

Always competitive, with 11 previous Cup appearances, they hobble into this year's Cup with megastar Wayne Rooney on the outs with a broken metatarsal. In a risky move, coach Sven-Goran Eriksson has placed 17-year old Theo Walcott on the team. There could be some pressure on the young lad to fill Rooney's boots.

Speaking of pressure, **Paraguay** feels a little less than their group leader, having finished only as deep as the second round in their tournament history. This'll be their fifth trip to the Cup.



Ballack



Walcott

If you're looking for Cinderellas, **Trinidad and Tobago** could be your best bet. The last team to book their spot, their best player, Dwight Yorke, hopes to reach the finals before he retires. Chris Birchall is the first-ever white player to play for T&T.

Sweden saunters in as semi-finalists in '38, and had first-place euphoria on home soil in '58. It might be an aged, slightly stiff, saunter, but with eleven World Cups they're no spring chickens to the big stage.

Group C

Argentina enters this year's Cup as an emerging monster, not unlike Brazil (the official "Football Monster"). Winning two titles in the last three tournaments, Argentina owns an unthinkable 12-year unbeaten streak at home.

They also have a rising megastar of football: Lionel Messi, who helped win the World Youth Championship as top scorer and star player. He also has my grandpa's first name.

Throw **Côte D'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)** alongside Ecuador as a Cinderella. Their entry in the tournament has been called "divine qualification" by Ivorians. Rallying after the death of their assistant coach, they won a crucial match against Sudan to gain their first-ever spot in the World Cup.

Their supreme striker is Chelsea's Didier Drogba, who scored nine goals in the qualifying games. The Ivorians not only play for victory, but for peace.

In a land rife with political turmoil, success could mean much more for this country than most others, as Drogba offers, "Let us come together and put this war behind us." On a final note, the team has achieved 6-0 victories three times in their history, a record in World Football.

Serbia and Montenegro enters the tournament somewhat hot, having won six and drawn four of their 10 qualifying games—one of eight teams to enter undefeated. They also boast one of the most dominant defensive lines in Europe, giving up just one goal in those same 10 games.

I imagine the **Netherlands** would like the 70's to return. Runners-up in '74 and '78, they wait and pine for similar success.

Always a threat, their coach Marco van Basten has said they'd have to be at their very best to even have a "fair chance" this year, feeling the team suffers from inexperience. Regardless, their country motto states, "I will maintain."

Group D:

Since 2005, **Mexico** has been in the top five of the FIFA world rankings, and the top 10 several years prior to that. They've qualified for the World Cup 12 times, a number superior to super powers France and England.

Virtually anything coming out of South America is lethal and hot. So head for the hills, mild salsa eaters!

This year **Iran** boasts their best team in their country's history. Their player to watch is Ali Karimi, the Asia Cup player of the year.

I hope **Angola** does well, if only to yell the following pun: An-goal-a! Making their debut appearance after 21 years of competing for a spot in the World Cup, their star player, Akwa, expressed his pride when he said, "We have



Birchall



Drogba

proved that Angola is not just about oil, war, and poverty."

If **Portugal** were cowboys in the old west, they'd swing through the saloon doors with guns a-blozing. In their 12 qualifying matches they've won nine games and scored more goals than any other European team (35 goals scored).

This is Portugal's fourth appearance, having made it to the semi-finals in England in '66. Cristiano Ronaldo is arguably their most gifted on the wing, while Pauleta's 11 goals in qualifying games put him at the top of the continental scorers' chart.

Group E:

Italy strides in wearing their fine Italian slacks as a member of the World Cup Hat Trick Club: having won on home soil in 1934, then again in France four years later, then, after a rest, won it again in Spain '82. This is their 15th World Cup appearance.

Ghana has won four African Cup of Nations titles, has twice bagged the FIFA Under-17 World Championship, but failed to earn a berth in the World Cup until this year.

The team is lead by captain Appiah, Chelsea's Michael Essien, and young phenom Prince Togo, who has scored 70 goals in the last three seasons and has been coined "Prince of Goals."

How is the old **U.S.A.** team, anyway? Well, in the first-ever World Cup in 1930, we made it to the semi-finals. Then came a path of utter non-participation (we failed to qualify from 1950 to 1990; we were busy playing baseball).

Now with four qualifications in a row, getting as far as the quarter-finals in Korea/Japan 2002 (losing to – you guessed it – Germany), the red, white and blue are on the up-and-up!

Bruce Arena's club is led by midfielders Landon Donovan and John O'Brien, who's making a comeback from a debilitating injury. The youngest player in World Cup history is 17-year old Freddy Adu (his 17th birthday was the week before the Cup started). Arena describes Adu as, "a player who can go around a defender by himself." Amazingly, Freddy is no stranger to the spotlight. At 14 he was the youngest pro athlete in U.S. history when he took the field in a Major League Soccer game.

If there was a second band of cowboys crashing into the same saloon behind Portugal, it would be the **Czech Republic**. Their attacking style was rewarded with top team scorers in European qualifying. Their star, Jan Koller, was right behind Portugal's Pauleta with nine goals during qualifying. They've reached the World Cup eight times, getting to the finals in '34 where they lost to Italy, whose slacks were more expensive and shiny.



Koller

Group F:

Take a bow, **Brazil!** After an incredulous five World Cup championships, appearances in the last three finals, the only team to qualify for every single World Cup, and scoring more goals (35) and conceding fewer goals (17) than any other team in qualifying, you must be exhausted!

They come equipped with living football legends Ronaldhini and Ronaldo. Ronaldo looks to become the leading scorer in the history of the World Cup this summer. They are, without question, the team to beat.

As teenagers in 1987, **Croatia** won the World Youth Championship. Eleven years later, the same players shone brightly for

For a full list of Cup matches, just type "2006 World Cup" in your search engine browser.

Croatia in the World Cup in France. They all return this summer, alongside the coach's son, Niko Kranjcar, who's the team's rising star.

There's only one word more fun to say than, "soccer", and that's "socceros." **Australia** has finally made it back to the World Cup after a 32-year absence; their last appearance was in Germany in '74.

Closing the group, **Japan** flies into Germany having tasted football's sweetest victory at home in 2002.

Group G:

France has more than a few bragging rights in the world of football. The first goal ever scored in the World Cup was by Lucien Laurent, a Frenchman. The most goals ever scored in the finals were by a Frenchman in 1958, Just Fontaine. And the actual trophy is named after the Frenchman Jules Rimet.

Then there's the actual playing field, where they are one of two teams that have taken part of every qualifying competition, and have

played in 11 out of a possible 17 finals (winning it all in '98 on home soil). Mega star Zinedine Zidane, voted European and World Player of the Year on three occasions, has said he'll retire after the tournament.

Switzerland made the cut after failing to do so the last two tournaments.

Young guns Barnetta and Senderos claimed UEFA European U-17 Championship honors in 2002.

The **Republic of Korea** competed in every tournament since 1986, with a semi-finals appearance on home soil in 2002. In Germany they look to advance to their sixth consecutive finals appearance.

The tiny African country of **Togo** is in the mix. A remarkable 7-1 qualifying campaign has Togolese countrymen crying tears of joy. Led by score-crazy striker Adebayor, their chances may be slim, but they're chances all the same.

Group H:

The last time **Spain** failed to get into the World Cup was 1974, in Germany. Eight consecutive appearances later they've finally made it to Deutschland with a fresh, young rising football star named Cesc Fabregas.

Fellow footballers have said of Fabregas, "...he could be the main player in the World Cup this year. He's that good."

Ukraine's fate this year rests on the shoulders of striker Andriy Shevchenko, who I would talk about more if it were not for his outrageously hard-to-spell name. I'll just go on record to say he could be the main player in the World Cup this year. He's that good.

In 1978, **Tunisia** was the first African team to win a game in the World Cup. Since then they've appeared in two more Cups.

Saudi Arabia, on the other hand, has reached their fourth consecutive World Cup. The royal family had forbidden football in the kingdom until 1951, at which time they granted.

And there you are, 32 teams chasing a ball. Are you base-dwellers ready for some **REAL** football?



Shevchenko



Volksmarches

“People’s Walk” a great way to experience German culture

by MARTINA BIAS
Bavarian News Food & Culture columnist

As the weather gets warmer, many of us long to spend our weekends outdoors. A wonderful way to do this and get some exercise at the same time is to join our German neighbors for a Volksmarch (literally “People’s Walk”).

Volksmarches began after World War II. Originally, it was a timed event and designed to help Germans stay in shape. Now it is much more of a hobby.

Today’s Volksmarches are non-competitive walks, not to be confused with pledge walks or races. It is simply a fun activity to enjoy with a club, your family or pet, or all alone.

A Volksmarch route make take you through woods, fields, cities, and villages. You can walk for free or pay a few Euros for incentive rewards such as medals, stuffed toys, beer mugs, and much more.

The term Volksmarching received its name from its European origins, in which the number of yearly events is incredible and includes almost every country.

Today, there are thousands of Volkssport (“People’s Sport”) clubs around the world, allied in the International Volkssport Federation, or IVV. Volkssports also include biking, cross country skiing, and rollerblading events.

Many Americans who have lived in Germany for years and have become accustomed to Volksmarching believe that it is a way to experience “the real Germany.”

Numerous local walking clubs host a Volksmarch in their town or village once a year. The club members select a trail for safety, scenic interest, historic areas, and natural beauty. They then invite everyone to come and enjoy it for a weekend.

Some Volksmarches practically end as miniature “Fests” with an array of food, drink, and entertainment available to participants after the walk.

Walking clubs readily welcome new members, but you don’t need to join a club to

take part in a Volksmarch event because they are open to the public.

Most people take two hours to stroll the 10-kilometer trails. Many events now offer the shorter distance of 5 kilometers, which is perfect for beginners and small children. It should only take one hour to complete at an easy pace.

There are also marked 20-kilometer trails for people who enjoy that challenge, but be aware that it is farther than you may think. Not quite as far, however as the “marathon” 42-kilometer Volksmarch.

Some people like to run or jog the distance, while others enjoy taking a leisurely pace and might chose to stop to sightsee, picnic, or even shop. The important thing is that you go at your own pace.

If you are new to this sport, the best way to get started is by finding out when and where the next Volksmarch in your area takes place.

Area Volksmarches are published every Thursday in the Stars & Stripes’ Travel Section.

There you will find starting times, locations, types of trails, incentive rewards, etc. Another great resource is the German Volksmarching Federation DVV Web site <http://www.dvv-wandern.de/frame.php?id=26>.

Click on “Wandertage” and the month you are looking for and you will see a map of Germany, on which black dots represent the locations of that month’s events. Move your mouse over the dots to reveal the name of the location and date of the event.

You will also see a listing of events organized by date by clicking on “Zur Tabellenansicht.”

On the day of the event, I suggest you begin by checking a map and locating the route you want to take to get to the Volksmarch.

Make sure you arrive on time to avoid being disqualified.

As you approach the Volksmarch, you will know you’re getting close to the starting point when you see signs that read, “IVV,” or “Start.”

Sometimes the club will help participants find parking spaces as they arrive, even if it means that you will drive your car onto a nearby farmer’s grassland.

Next, proceed to the building where you purchase your start card. Buy one start card for each member of your family, not only so you can receive official IVV credit, but more importantly for insurance protection in case you suffer an injury along the trail.

Your start card will usually cost 1.50 Euro for an IVV stamp and insurance.

If you did not pre-register, purchase your start card from the table marked “Nachmelder”(late registration).

In that case, a start card for IVV stamp, insurance, and prize will cost 3.80 or 5.30 Euros, depending on if the club charges an extra 1.50 Euro late fee.

The late registration fee helps offset additional expenses, such as mailing the prize to you if they run out of them initially. To purchase a card for a stamp only, you say “Einmal Stempel bitte.”

For a start card that includes the prize say, “Einmal Medallie bitte.”

After you buy your start card, look for an area marked “Werber,” where you will find clubs advertising upcoming Volksmarches.

You can collect the fliers to plan for future events. Many of the fliers include an English section on the back page.

Before you leave the start area, check near the door for a table marked “Startstempel”. Only a few events have one, but if this is one of them, get your start card stamped there before departing. This is also where you may find cups of free broth or tea.

The trails are marked in a variety of ways, but most of them are easy to follow as long as you pay attention.

The most common methods are arrows drawn on the ground, or brightly colored tape tied around trees, poles, fence posts, etc.

To distinguish between various distances, the markers might be different colors with a key posted or the distance noted on some of them.

To show which trails or roads NOT to use, a painted or sawdust line is usually laid across the ground.

Also, look for signs labeled “Streckenteilung,” which indicate where trails of different distances split off from each other.

Control points called “Kontrollstelle” are set up roughly halfway through the trail or about every five to six kilometers. At each one, present your start card to get it stamped or validated.

This is your proof that you completed the trail, and you may not receive credit for the distance walked if you are missing the stamps.

Kontrollstelle also normally offer a place to sit and rest, enjoy complementary broth or tea, or a variety of other beverages, sandwiches, and snacks at reasonable prices.

When you return to the Start/Ziel (Start and End points), there are a few things you will want to do.

If you have an IVV book for events and/or distances, present it and your validated start card at the table marked “Stempelstelle”.

Your book will be stamped with the official IVV stamp. If you purchased a start card for a price, your card will be returned to you so you can claim your prize at the table under the sign “Medallien- ausgabe”.

If you did not pre-register and the club does not have enough prizes on hand, print your name and address on your start card and/or the envelope provided. Keep a copy of the flier in case your prize does not arrive within six to eight weeks.

In addition to the Volksmarch prizes, the IVV has an incentive awards program. This program offers stick pins, cloth patches, and certificates indicating the level of achievement for two types of participation (number of events and distance).

IVV record books can be purchased at every walk for 4 Euros and completed books are sent to the DVV business office or given to the “Abzeichenwart” at an event.

Finally, get something to eat and drink and share in the spirit of fun and friendship abundant at every walk.

Visit http://volksmarch.com/volksmarch_signs.html for a list of German signs you may encounter along the trail.

Have you ever wondered why Germans do certain things? I welcome your questions and comments. E-mail me at martina.bias@us.army.mil, and I may be able to address your suggestions in a future column.

“ The club members select a trail for safety, scenic interest, its historic areas, and natural beauty. ”

“ A route may take you through woods, fields, cities, and villages. ... Walking clubs readily welcome new members. ”

How to get your international driver’s license

For your travels throughout Europe this summer it is advised that you carry an international driver’s license.

A list of all the countries that require this important document is available at your local driver testing center. Unlike in the United States, where you can obtain an international driver’s license at any AAA office, the German ADAC cannot issue one.

In Germany it is considered a legal document and is only issued by the local Landratsamt at the office for drivers’ licenses (Fuehrerscheinstelle).

For the Vilseck community, this office is located in Amberg. For the Grafenwoehr community, it is in Eschenbach. Your local driver’s testing center can supply you with a map of how to get there.

You will need to bring two passport-size photos, your ID, card and your USAREUR driver’s license. You may also pick up the necessary application paperwork at your local driver’s testing center. As a courtesy, they will also assist you in filling it out correctly, as the local clerks do not always speak fluent English.

The cost for the license varies but should not exceed 15 Euros, payable in cash only. You may receive your license immediately or it can take one week to 10 working days. It is valid for three years or until your current USAREUR license expires (if that date is less than three years).

An international driver’s license cannot be renewed. For more info, call your local driver’s testing centers in Vilseck (476-2886) and Grafenwoehr (475-7569).

Frankfurter Kranz is a Torte worth creating

by MARTINA BIAS
Bavarian News Food & Culture columnist

On a typical Sunday afternoon, many Germans enjoy a cup of coffee and a tasty “Torte” or other cake creation with family or friends.

Many of the recipes used to bake these coffee-time treats have been passed down from generation to generation.

A Torte is the richest of all of Germany’s pastry indulgences. Most Torten consist of layers of cake, fruits and cream, the most famous of which is the Black Forrest Cherry Cake.

Today, I am introducing you to a traditional German Torte of fluffy yellow cake (or pound cake), red jam (optional), and “Buttercreme” (butter cream) layers.

Buttercreme is a creamy filling made of pudding and softened butter.

The Frankfurter Kranz, or Frankfurt Wreath, is a cake specialty from Frankfurt am Main. It has the traditional Bundt shape and is sprinkled with Krokant, finely chopped nuts covered in hardened caramel. Krokant is mainly used for decoration and an absolute necessity for a true Frankfurter Kranz.

You can purchase Krokant in the baking section of a German grocery store or make it

yourself. To make Krokant, simply melt sugar in a pan and add chopped nuts. Stir until nuts are coated. Spread mixture on a sheet of parchment paper and cool until firm. Break into small pieces. A mallet works well to achieve this.

Frankfurter Kranz is easy to make, looks impressive, and can be made in advance for easy entertaining. Give it a try and enjoy it with a nice cup of German coffee soon.

Guten Appetit!

Frankfurter Kranz

Ingredients for the cake batter

2 cups flour
¾ cup cornstarch
4 tsp. baking powder
1 ½ cups sugar
½ tsp salt
1 ½ cups butter or margarine, softened
5 eggs

Ingredients for Buttercreme

2 cups milk
1 egg yolk
2 Tbs sugar
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 (3 oz) package of cook-and-serve vanilla pudding

2½ sticks butter (no substitutes)

Additional ingredients

1 cup red jam (of your choice), optional
1 cup Krokant
maraschino cherries (for decoration)
whipped cream (for decoration)

Preheat oven to 375 degrees.

In a large bowl, mix all cake ingredients into a smooth batter. Pour into greased Bundt pan and bake for 35 – 45 minutes. Cool completely. Cut horizontally into three layers.

For the Buttercreme, bring 1½ cups of milk, sugar, vanilla extract, and salt to a boil. Whisk remaining ½ cup of milk with egg yolk and pudding powder and add to the boiling milk.

Stir well and remove from heat. Cool, stirring occasionally to prevent the formation of a skin on top of the pudding.

Meanwhile, beat butter until fluffy. Beat in cooled pudding, a spoonful at a time.

Spread jam on bottom layer of cake (optional), top with about 1/3 of Buttercreme. Place second layer of cake on top and spread with another third of the Buttercreme.

Top off with the last cake layer and spread the remaining cream all over cake. Sprinkle with Krokant on all sides.

If desired, pipe little mounds of whipped cream on top of cake and top with maraschino cherries.

Yield: 12 – 14 servings

Do you have a favorite German dish you would like to recreate at home? E-mail me at martina.bias@us.army.mil.



The Frankfurter Kranz, or “wreath,” is a perfect coffee treat to enjoy with family and friends.

USAREUR forges ahead with FY07 Transformation plans

Continued From Page 1

Departure of 1AD's 1st BCT will allow USAREUR to return facilities in Giessen and Friedberg to the host nation as previously announced in 2003.

These returns will now all occur by the end of FY08, rather than incrementally as originally planned for in FY06-FY08.

The Round 30 Base Closure announcement of April 2003 stated that U.S. Army, Europe would partially close the Giessen General Depot and return its other facilities in Giessen, Friedberg, Butzbach, Wetzlar, and Bad Nauheim. The returns were to be done throughout the FY06-08 timeframe.

1BCT's departure reflects President George Bush's announcement in August 2004 that the two U.S. Army divisions in Europe would return to the U.S.

It also supports the Department of Defense's overall plan to transform the U.S. military to increase strategic responsiveness in the face of threats posed by the Global War on Terrorism.

As a result, USAREUR will proceed with the following DoD-approved return of facilities in Giessen and Friedberg area, upon 1st BCTs departure.

The plan is to return, relocate, or inactivate all listed USAREUR units and supporting agencies starting in the summer of 2007.

This includes small support functions such as legal offices, military police, personnel reps, training support facilities and others.

As previously announced, the remaining facilities on Giessen General Depot are the AAFES Distribution Center and the Supply Management Center.

In Wetzlar

George Gershwin Family Housing Area (Announced as FY06 closure, already completed)

In Bad Nauheim

Alvin York Village Family Housing Area (Announced as FY06 closure, change to FY08)

In Friedberg

MacArthur Family Housing Area (Announced as FY06 closure, change to FY08)

Ray Barracks (Announced as FY07 closure, change to FY08)

Friedberg Training and Storage Area (Announced as FY07 closure, change to FY08)

In Butzbach

Schloss Kaserne (Announced as FY07 closure, change to FY08)

Butzbach Training Area (Announced as FY08 closure, no change)

Roman Way Village Family Housing Area (Announced as FY07 closure, change to FY08)

In Giessen

Pendleton Barracks (Announced as FY08 closure, no change)

John F. Dulles Village Family Housing Area (Announced as FY08 closure, no change)

George C. Marshall Village Family Housing Area (Announced as FY08 closure, no change)

Giessen military community facilities (Announced as FY08 closure, no change)

Giessen Depot (partial closure) (Announced as FY08 closure, no change)

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service distribution center currently operates on the retained portion of the Giessen Depot with about 510 local nationals and 46 U.S. non-appropriated personnel.

Combat Service Support Units

USAREURs force structure changes support the modularization,

Moves, realignments to boost U.S. military's strategic responsiveness

inactivation, or return to CONUS of Combat Service Support units. These actions support Army transformation.

These unit transformation actions will affect approximately 3,500 Soldiers and 5,200 family members. In addition, 434 U.S. and 527 local national civilian employees assigned to the units will be affected.

The following units will be affected by the transformation of USAREUR Combat Service Support Units:

Modular Design

■ Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 21st Theater Support Command (TSC), Kaiserslautern, converts to 21st Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)

■ Headquarters, Headquarters Detachment, 200th Material Management Center (MMC), Kaiserslautern, converts to the 474th Theater Distribution Element.

■ Headquarters, Headquarters Detachment, 37th Transportation Group, Kaiserslautern, converts to the 150th Theater Opening Element.

■ 7th Corps Support Group (CSG), Bamberg, converts to the 16th Sustainment Brigade.

■ Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 18th Combat Support Battalion (CSB) [18th Corps Support Battalion], Grafenwoehr, converts to Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 18th Combat Service Support Battalion (CSSB).

■ Headquarters, Headquarters Detachment, 191st Ordnance Battalion, Kaiserslautern, converts to Headquarters, Headquarters Company 191st Combat Service Support Battalion (CSSB), Kaiserslautern.

■ 5th Ordnance Maintenance Company, Kaiserslautern, converts to 5th Support Maintenance Company.

■ 39th Movement Control Battalion, Kaiserslautern converts to a modular unit.

■ 574th Supply Company, Mannheim, converts to a modular unit

■ 624th Movement Control Team (Port), Kaiserslautern, converts to a standard MCT.

■ 627th Movement Control Team(Area), Bamberg, converts to a standard MCT.

■ 635th Movement Control Team (REG), Wiesbaden, converts to standard MCT.

■ 702nd Ordnance Company (EOD), Grafenwoehr, converts to a modular unit.

■ 720th Ordnance Company (EOD), Mannheim, converts to a modular unit.

■ 240th Quartermaster Company, Bamberg, converts to a modular unit.

■ 317th Maintenance Company, Bamberg, converts to a modular unit.

■ 212th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH), Miesau, converts to a modular combat support hospital.

■ 100th Medical (VET) Battalion, Heidelberg changes from a deployable to non-deployable unit. Existing facilities remain open and stabilize at current location under the Europe Regional Veterinary Command (ERVVC). Services remain unchanged.

■ 21st Medical (VET) Detachment (SMALL), Hohenfels changes from a deployable to non-deployable unit. Existing facilities remain open and stabilize at current location under the Europe Regional Veterinary Command (ERVVC). Services remain unchanged.

■ 79th Medical (VET) Detachment (SMALL), Belgium changes from a deployable to non-deployable unit.

Existing facilities remain open and stabilize at current location under the Europe Regional Veterinary Command (ERVVC). Services remain unchanged.

Unless noted otherwise, the actions outlined below do not reflect unit moves, but only the transfer of some spaces from the previous organization to the new structure. Other spaces will be redistributed by the Department of the Army, based on its determination of requirements worldwide.

CSS Units Departing USAREUR

■ Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 3rd Corps Support Command (COSCOM), Wiesbaden.

■ 623rd MCT (AREA), Rotterdam.

■ 51st Medical (VET) Detachment, (SMALL), Kaiserslautern.

■ 64th Medical (VET) Detachment, (LARGE), Kaiserslautern.

■ 72nd Medical (VET) Detachment, (LARGE), Wuerzburg.

CSS Units Inactivating

■ HHC, 16th Corps Support Group, Hanau, inactivates. Flag is retained and 7th CSG is reflagged to the 16th Sustainment Brigade as the Enduring Sustainment Brigade.

■ 1st Transportation Movement Control Agency (1st TMCA), Kaiserslautern.

■ 27th Movement Control Battalion [27th Transportation Battalion (Movement Control)], Wiesbaden

■ 19th Material Maintenance Command [19th Support Center], Wiesbaden.

■ 71st Combat Support Battalion [71st Corps Support Battalion], Bamberg.

■ Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 485th Combat Support Battalion [485th Corps Support Battalion], Hanau.

■ Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 181st Transportation Battalion, Mannheim.

■ 260th Transportation Company, Mannheim.

■ 77th Ordnance Company (Maintenance), Babenhausen.

■ 23rd Ordnance Company, Ammo, Miesau, soldiers are reassigned to fill other unit requirements and the flag is retained and moved to Grafenwoehr.

■ 529th Ordnance Company, Grafenwoehr, is reflagged as the 23rd OD and remains in Grafenwoehr.

■ 26th Supply Company [26th Quartermaster Company], Hanau.

■ Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 2-502 Aviation Intermediate Maintenance (AVIM) Battalion, Mannheim.

■ C Detachment, 55th Personnel Services Battalion, Friedberg.

■ 619th Movement Control Team (PORT), Wiesbaden.

■ 626th Movement Control Team (AREA), Hanau.

■ 633rd Movement Control Team (DIVISION), Hanau.

■ 634th Movement Control Team (DIVISION), Bamberg.

■ 147th Ordnance Company, Illesheim/Ansbach.

■ Army Health Clinic, Butzbach.

■ Army Health Clinic, Friedberg.

■ Army Dental Clinic, Friedberg.

■ Army Dental Clinic, Giessen.

■ 93rd Medical (DENTAL) Battalion, Heidelberg.

■ 67 Combat Support Hospital, Wurzburg.

USAREUR aviation units

Aviation units will be converted to create a Combat Aviation Brigade in Europe as part of the Army's transformation of aviation units worldwide to a standard design.

Reflagging and repositioning of aviation units in FY06 set the conditions for the actual conversion of unit structures and the creation of the 12th CAB in USAREUR.

As previously announced, the plan is to combine existing V Corps aviation units to form a single organization, while retaining capabilities.

The following changes to units will complete the establishment of the CAB in USAREUR.

These unit transformation actions will affect approximately 2,100 Soldiers and 3,150 family members.

In addition, 31 U.S. and 57 local national civilian employees assigned to the units will be affected.

Unless noted otherwise, the actions outlined below do not reflect unit moves, but only the transfer of some spaces from the previous organization to the new structure.

Other spaces will be redistributed by the Department of the Army, based on its determination of requirements worldwide.

FY 07 Actions to establish the Combat Aviation Brigade

■ Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Aviation Brigade, 11D, Katterbach, converts and is redesignated as the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade.

■ 2-6 Cavalry Squadron, Illesheim/Ansbach, was redesignated as 3-159 Attack Battalion in FY06 and converts to a modular attack Battalion in FY07.

■ 6-6 Cavalry Squadron, Illesheim/Ansbach, converts in FY07 and is redesignated as the 2-159 Attack Battalion.

■ 3-158 Assault Battalion, Katterbach, converts to a modular Air Assault Battalion.

■ 2-1 Aviation Battalion, Katterbach, converts and becomes the 5-158 Avn General Support Aviation Battalion.

■ F/159 AVN, Katterbach, is redesignated a B/5-158 AVN.

■ Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3-58 Air Traffic Services, Wuerzburg, inactivates.

■ D Co, 3-58 ATS, Grafenwoehr, returns to the U.S.

■ 601st Division Aviation Support Battalion, Katterbach converts and redesignates to the 412th Aviation Support Battalion.

FY 07 Actions to Establish the Theater General Aviation Support Battalion

■ 1-214 Aviation Battalion, Wiesbaden, converts to the Theater General Support Aviation Battalion.

■ 236th Air Ambulance Company, Landstuhl, is redesignated as C/I-214, GSAB.

■ C Company, 3-58 ATS, Wiesbaden, converts to the Theater Airfield Operations Detachment and moves to the Ansbach/Illesheim area.

■ 159th Air Ambulance Company, Wiesbaden, inactivates.

■ 45th Air Ambulance Company, Katterbach, is reflagged as C Co., 5-158th, GSAB.

Engineering Units

Engineering units within USAREUR will modularize, inactivate or return to the U.S. starting in FY07, as part of the Army's reorganization and standardization of engineering units worldwide.

These actions support the Army's concept to build its Future Engineer Force and convert existing engineer units into a USAREUR engineer theater enabling command.

The purpose of the Engineer TEC is to plan, and execute engineer missions to provide mobility in support of force application, focused logistics, or protection of Joint Task Force/Army Service Component Command Level.

The Engineer Battalion plans, integrates, and directs execution of engineer missions for assigned engineer companies.

The Sapper Company provides mobility, counter-mobility, survivability, and general engineering missions to maneuver and support brigades.

The Geospatial Planning Cell will generate and analyze terrain data to produce terrain graphics, image maps, terrain perspective views, theater geospatial database, map updates, and battlefield overlays.

These unit transformation actions will affect approximately 950 Soldiers and 1,425 family members. In addition, 16 U.S. and two local national civilian employees assigned to the units will be affected.

The following engineering units will be affected by transformation in FY 07:

■ Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 18th Engineer Brigade, Heidelberg, converts to a Modular Engineer Brigade Headquarters.

■ 60th Engineer Detachment, Schwetzingen, converts to a Geospatial Planning Cell.

■ 54th Engineer Battalion, Bamberg, converts to form an Engineer Composite Battalion Headquarters.

■ 535th Engineer Company, Grafenwoehr, converts to the Engineer Support Company of the ECB.

■ Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 130th Engineer Brigade, Hanau, returns to the U.S.

■ 320th Engineer Company, Hanau, inactivates.

■ Headquarters, Headquarters Detachment, Division Engineers, 1 AD, Giessen moves to Wiesbaden.

Other units

USAREUR will inactivate five units and move three others in Germany in FY07. These unit transformation actions will affect approximately 2,300 Soldiers and 3,450 family members. In addition, 19 U.S. and one local national civilian employees assigned to the units will be affected.

Units Inactivating

■ Headquarters, Headquarters Battery, V Corps Artillery, Heidelberg.

■ Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 22nd Signal Brigade, Darmstadt.

■ 32nd Signal Battalion, Darmstadt.

■ 440th Signal Battalion, Darmstadt.

■ C Co, 165th Military Intelligence Battalion, Darmstadt.

Intra Theater moves

■ 515th Transportation Company, Mannheim, moves to Grafenwoehr.

■ 527th MP Company Giessen, moves to Hohenfels.

■ C Detachment, 39th Finance Battalion, Giessen relocates to Bamberg.

HOHENFELS GIRLS TAKE TITLE

Lady Longhorns win IMA-E tourney

Hohenfels shows determination, victors in three-day championship

Story and photo by
KATHY JORDAN
Staff writer

“It was a tough tournament. Every team that showed up here brought their ‘A’ game and they came here to win, but my girls showed bigger heart,” said Antonio Leija, the head coach of the Hohenfels Lady Longhorns.

The team was named IMA-E Girls’ Softball champions after winning a June 2-4 tournament at the Vilseck Triplex Softball Fields.

The Longhorns used pitching, fielding, and hitting to defeat all opponents their opponents during the three-day competition.

“They deserve this victory and this championship,” said Leija. “They played hard all year long and they played hard this entire tournament.”

After ending the regular season with a record three wins and two losses, the Hohenfels team made the trip to Vilseck to test their skills against teams from Stuttgart, Aviano, Heidelberg, Bamberg, and Hessen.

The junior squad ranged from ages 13 to 15 and boasted no losses throughout the tournament.

On day two of the tournament, the team defeated three opponents to qualify for the championship game, including their 9-8 win over Bamberg and their 11-7 win against Stuttgart.

The Heidelberg team fought their way back to the winner’s circle for a stab at the championship by defeating three teams from the loser’s bracket.

Heidelberg won 18-8 against Bamberg, before a winning a close victory, 16-15, over Aviano.

The last team they faced was Stuttgart, who originally sent them to the loser’s bracket.

But Heidelberg would not be denied a second time and nosed out Stuttgart 12-11 in a tight rematch.

Heidelberg led 1-0 in the first inning of the championship game. In the second inning, Hohenfels hit the ball and scored, putting them ahead 5-3.

In the third inning, Hohenfels pulled out all the stops and closed the inning 13-3.

The game was called in the fourth inning and Hohenfels won the title. After the game the teams shook hands and celebrated making it to the winners circle.

“I thought it was a very well played game and both teams gave it their best effort,” said Heidelberg Head Coach Paul Guelle.

“The better team won today,” he said. “Our team did great coming back from the loser’s bracket. It showed a lot of character.”



Hohenfels’ Shelby West releases a fast ball from the mound.



2006 Earth Day

The Hohenfels Environmental Office and Federal Forestry Office hosted this year’s Earth Day for more than 300 American and German students at Hohenfels May 31. Students participated in a three-kilometer hike, led by foresters and environmental experts. Officials helped students identify plants, bee hives, and wild animal displays. The day concluded with a lakeside cookout.

Photo by Kim Diano

Vilseck teens to attend military child convention

DoDEA News

Two DoDDS-Europe students from Vilseck have been recognized for outstanding participation in the Military Child Education Coalition’s Student 2 Student program.

The program assists military dependents, who move and change schools frequently, adapt to their new academic and social environments as positively as possible.

Angela Odom and Cortier Rogers (photo unavailable), both juniors at Vilseck High School, will attend the MCEC National Convention in Houston, Texas, July 12-14 in the company of Elke Zschaebitz, the school nurse and S2S program leader, and “School” Steve Vojtecky, the Installation Management Agency-Europe schools liaison officer for Vilseck and Grafenwoehr.



Odom

The Vilseck team, one of 113 worldwide, is the only group from outside the continental United States selected to attend the conference.

This is the first year that S2S has been in place at Vilseck, said Zschaebitz.

The program aims to integrate both new and returning students into a cohesive, spirited student body by the beginning of the school year.

The timing is right since soldiers and families, including children who will attend the DoDDS-E schools in Vilseck and Grafenwoehr, began arriving in the community this spring and will continue to arrive over the course of the summer.

Approximately 50 S2S student counselors have received training and meet weekly during lunch to work on strategies for welcoming new students.

“This program has really taken off,” said Principal Robert Sennett.

“They’re working now with the Stryker Brigade kids that are coming in,” he said. “We have a good group of ambassadors to take them around and make them feel welcome. It’s working.”

Contact Vilseck High School for more information on S2S

International camporee:

More than 200 Boy Scouts from the United States, Germany, France, Great Britain, Czech Republic, Belgium, Netherlands, and Canada attended the 2006 Intercamp at Vilseck Army Airfield June 2-4. Intercamp is a multi-national camporee attended by scouting groups from throughout Europe.

This year’s theme was “Frontiers of Scouting.” During the weekend’s activities, Scouts learned how early frontiersmen fended for themselves. Since 1967, Intercamp has been an ongoing international experience and a highlight of the scouting year. For more information about this event or the Boy Scouts, contact your local Scout coordinator.

Photo by Seth Robinson, Stars & Stripes



Taking care of one another: Student 2 Student

The Student 2 Student program is a growing initiative among DODDS-Europe schools. At Vilseck Middle High School this program involves a team of volunteer students trained by MCEC, supervised by the school nurse, and supported by the school liaison officer.

Vilseck High School focuses on three key areas for transitioning students: Relationships, Finding Your Way, and Academics.

This exemplary program has been chosen as one of the best in the nation and is the only DoDDS school being represented at the MCEC conference in Houston July 2006. See story at right.

Courtesy photo

